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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/538,337	09/14/2005	Innocente Marchante Moreno	124210	1543
25944	7590	06/21/2007		
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			EXAMINER LEYSON, JOSEPH S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/538,337	Applicant(s) MARCHANTE MORENO ET AL.	
	Examiner Joseph Leyson	Art Unit 1722	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure, immediately after the title on page 1, should include a cross notation to the international application (i.e., This application is a National Stage application of International Application PCT/FR03/03901, filed on December 24, 2003, which claims foreign priority to French Application 03/00400, filed on January 15, 2003.).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

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4. Claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshimura et al. (U.S. Patent 4,807,336) in view of Nicholas et al. (U.S. Patent 4,614,011).

Yoshimura et al. (U.S. Patent 4,807,336) disclose a mechanical device for simultaneously drawing plastic films in the longitudinal direction and in the transverse direction, with the use of successive grippers 2 for holding, transporting and drawing the film, the grippers 2 being supported and guided by rails 7 and driven forward by virtue of an endless chain 5 connecting the grippers 2 together, the endless chain 5 being driven by means of one or more sprockets 8, 9, 10, characterized in that it comprises, on each side of the film that is to be drawn, an endless chain 5 guided on two rails 7 of variable separation, the endless chain 5 consisting of a succession of links 14, 15 articulated to one another about vertical pins 19, the grippers 2 being connected to one pin in two or mounted between two links 14, 15, and protruding on one side of the chain 5, being guided on one (i.e., 7a) of the two rails, while guide pieces (i.e., 6, 6b contacting rail 7b in figs. 8-13) are connected to one pin in two or mounted between two links 14, 15, between the grippers 2, and move along the other (i.e., 7b) of the two rails such that according to the separation and/or to the variation in separation of these two rails 7 the successive links 14, 15 of the chain 5 are more or less aligned or, on the other hand, make angles with respect to one another so as to fix and/or modify the distance between the successive grippers 2, wherein the grippers 2 have bodies articulated about one in two of the vertical hinge pins of the successive links of the chain 5, whereas the guide pieces (i.e., 6, 6b in figs. 8-13) are articulated about the other vertical

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hinge pins of the successive links of the chain which are situated between the previous hinge pins (i.e., figs. 8-13), wherein particularly in divergent portions of the two chains 5, placed one on each side of the film 1, the two rails 7a, 7b converge such that the angles between the successive links of the chain will gradually open up, and the successive grippers 2 will diverge from one another, thus drawing the film a in the longitudinal direction and in the transverse direction (i.e., fig. 1, 21), wherein the two rails 7a, 7b are parallel to one another and parallel to the direction in which the film 1 is transported, and have a maximum separation in a film-preheating region A situated upstream of the drawing region B, and wherein the two rails 7a, 7b are parallel to one another and parallel to the direction in which the film a is transported and have a minimum separation in a stabilizing region C situated downstream of the drawing region B (i.e., fig. 1, 21), wherein mechanical means (i.e., fig. 3; col. 8, lines 21-32) are provided for locally modifying the separation of the two rails so as to adjust the longitudinal draw ratios continuously, and wherein the two rails modify their angle of convergence by having the rails in different arrangements (i.e., col. 11, line 9, to col. 12, line 29). However, Yoshimura et al. (U.S. Patent 4,807,336) does not disclose mechanical means (i.e., fig. 3) for locally modifying the separation of the two rails and their angles of convergence, so as to adjust the longitudinal and transverse draw ratios during production.

Nicholas et al. (U.S. Patent 4,614,011) disclose mechanical means for locally modifying the separation of two rails and their angles of convergence, so as to adjust

the longitudinal and transverse draw ratios during production (i.e., col. 10, line 46, to col. 12, line 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to modify the device of Yoshimura et al. (U.S. Patent 4,807,336) with mechanical means for locally modifying the separation of the two rails and their angles of convergence, so as to adjust the longitudinal and transverse draw ratios during production because such a modification is well known and conventional in the art, as disclosed by Nicholas et al. (U.S. Patent 4,614,011), and would enable adjustment of the longitudinal and transverse draw ratios during production, and because Yoshimura et al. (U.S. Patent 4,807,336) discloses changing the separation of the two rails and their angles of convergence is desired to adjust the longitudinal and transverse draw ratios.

5. Claims 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshimura et al. (U.S. Patent 4,807,336) in view of Nicholas et al. (U.S. Patent 4,614,011) as applied to claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 above, and further in view of FR 2686041.

Yoshimura et al. (U.S. Patent 4,807,336) and Nicholas et al. (U.S. Patent 4,614,011) disclose the device substantially as claimed, as mentioned above, except for the limitations of instant claims 3-5.

FR 2686041 (figs. 1-11) discloses a gripper body/guiding piece 3, 4 which is guided along a monorail 7, wherein the gripper body/guiding piece 3, 4 includes roller means including vertical-axis rollers 26, 37, 43 rolling along two lateral faces of the rail 7 and a horizontal-axis roller 23 rolling along the top of the rail 7, wherein the lateral

rollers include, on each side of the rail 7, two upper rollers 26, 37 and two lower rollers 37, 43, and wherein the two upper rollers 26, 37 have a slight vertical offset so that they can be imbricated (i.e., fig. 9).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to further modify the gripper bodies and guiding pieces with the roller means of FR 2686041 because such a modification would provide an alternative means for actuating the gripper bodies and guiding pieces relative to the rail, as disclosed by FR 2686041.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to the instant claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph Leyson whose telephone number is (571) 272-5061. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gupta Yogendra can be reached on (571) 272-1316. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



JL


ROBERT DAVIS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1300 / 722

6/19/07